

13. *UROCTEA INDICA* POCKOCK (FAMILY : UROCTEIDAE) AS A
NEW RECORD FROM RAJASTHAN, INDIA

(With five text-figures)

While studying a collection of spiders from Rajasthan, we came across two females of *Uroctea indica* which was described by Pocock (1900)¹ from Poona, Maharashtra. This is the only recorded species from India. The original description is very inadequate and without illustrations. In the present paper *U. indica* Pocock is redescribed and illustrated.

***Uroctea indica* Pocock**
(Figs. 1-5)

1900. *Uroctea indica* Pocock, Fauna Brit. India, p. 243.

Specimens examined: 2 ♀ ♀, India, Rajasthan, Indana, Dist. Nagaur, date, 4.ix.1960. Coll. B. Biswas (Regd. No. 4317/18).

General: Cephalothorax and legs reddish-brown, abdomen brownish-black. Total length 8.5 mm. Carapace 2.80 mm. long, 3.70 mm. wide; abdomen 6.30 mm. long, 4.30 mm. wide.

Cephalothorax: Transversely reniform, strongly rebordered, clothed with hair. Radiating black stripes diverge from foveal region to lateral sides of cephalothorax. Eyes compact, pearly white, arranged in two distinct rows. Anterior row of eyes slightly procurved (as seen from in front); medians larger than the laterals and closer to laterals than to each other. Posterior row of eyes slightly procurved, medians slightly smaller than the laterals, widely separated from each other, closer to the adjacent laterals. Median ocular quadrangle wider than long and wider behind than in front. Chelicerae weak, vertical, dorsally clothed with hair, inner and outer margin without

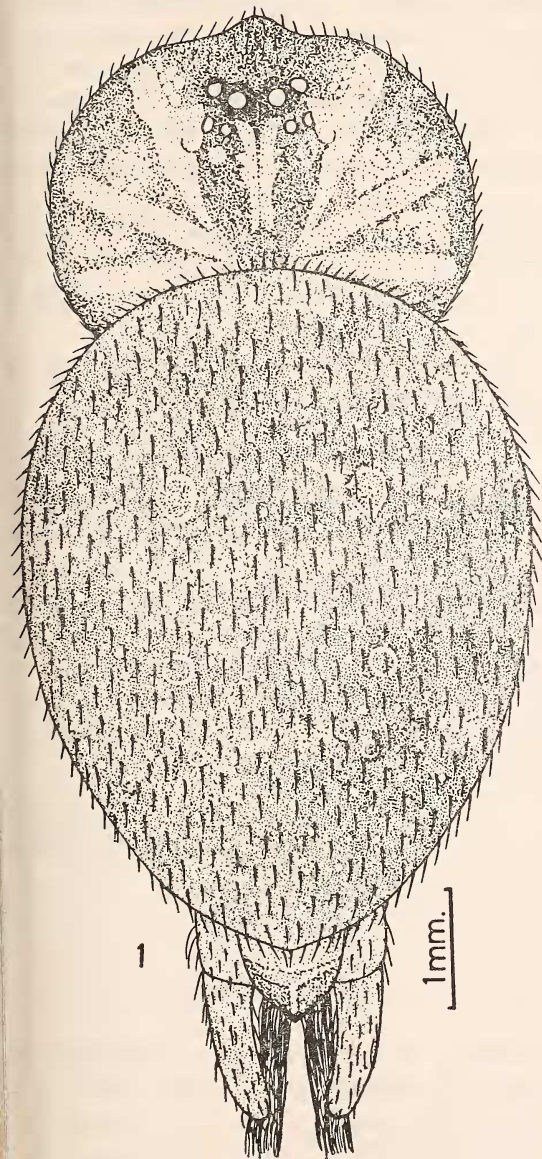
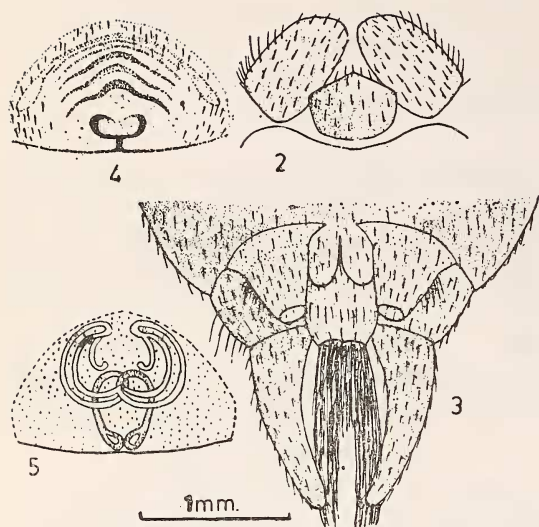


Fig. 1. *Uroctea indica* Pocock. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted.

¹ Pocock, R. I. (1900) : Fauna Brit. India, Arachnida. p. 243.



Figs. 2-5. *Uroctea indica* Pocock.

2. Labium and maxillae; 3. Spinnerets, ventral view; 4. Epigyne; 5. Internal genitalia.

tooth. Labium wider than long, pentagonal in shape, maxillae convergent, clothed with hair and some spine like hair, shape as in fig. 2. Sternum heart-shaped, pointed behind, clothed with long hair. Legs long, stout, clothed with hair and spines. Femur of all legs dorsally provided with black and pale patches.

Abdomen: Longer than wide, oval, clothed with spine like hair, dorsally provided with

three pairs of sigilla and some round white spots as in fig. 1. Ventral side slightly lighter than the dorsal, clothed with hair and provided with four longitudinal white bands starting from epigastric furrow to the anal tubercle. Epigyne consisting of transversely elliptical plate and marked with nearly semicircular grooves in front as in fig. 4. Internal genitalia with oval spermathecae and three spermathecal ducts as in fig. 5. Spinnerets six, clothed with hair, posterior spinnerets longer than others, bisegmented, anterior spinnerets short, cylindrical as in fig. 3. The anal tubercle large, thick, bisegmented and clothed with long hair. The apical segment provided with a lateral fringe of long flexible hair.

Distribution : INDIA : Poona, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Indana, Dist. Nagaur.

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14. RECORDS OF PLANTS GROWING AT HIGH ALTITUDES

It will be interesting for students of botany to know the highest altitude in the world from where flowering plants have been collected.

Sahni & Raizada (1955) during an expedition to Pancha Chuli in 1951 collected *Sedum*

crenulatum Hk. f. & Th. from an altitude of 20,000 ft. Albert Zimmermann (1953), a botanist, who participated in the Everest Expedition in 1952 had collected *Arenaria*, *Androsace* (perhaps *Androsace microphylla*) and